

**IN THE CLAIMS**

1. (original) A hand held instrument adapted to be held in use between a user's fore finger, middle finger and thumb in the manner of a writing instrument, comprising an instrument grip provided with a substantially triangular cross-section, in which a first side and a second side of the cross-section are provided with a concavity adapted to receive a portion of either the user's fore finger or thumb in use, in which the grip is provided with the same cross-section along its longitudinal axis.

2. (currently amended) TheA hand held instrument as claimed in claim 1 in which the instrument grip is dimensioned to fit inside a substantially triangular aperture in which a first side and a second side are concave, which is formed by portions of the user's fore finger, middle finger and thumb when they are held together in a manner suitable to grip a writing instrument.

3. (currently amended) TheA hand held instrument as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~ in which the concavity provided on the first side and the second side of the cross-section extends along the whole length of the first side and the second side.

4. (currently amended) TheA hand held instrument as claimed in claim 3 in which a third side of the cross-section is substantially flat.

5. (currently amended) TheA hand held instrument as claimed in claim 4 in which the instrument comprises an active end which must be disposed at a particular rotation in order to function correctly, and in which when the third side is rested on the middle finger in use the active end is substantially disposed at said particular rotation.

6. (currently amended) TheA hand held instrument as claimed in claim 3 in which a third side of the cross-section is provided with a concavity adapted to receive either the user's fore finger or thumb in use.

7. (currently amended) ~~A~~The hand held instrument as claimed in claim 6 in which the instrument comprises an active end which can be disposed at any rotation on order to function correctly.

8. (currently amended) ~~A~~The hand held instrument as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~claim 1 in which the instrument is a writing instrument.

9. (new) The hand held instrument as claimed in claim 2 in which the concavity provided on the first side and the second side of the cross-section extends along the whole length of the first side and the second side.

10. (new) The hand held instrument as claimed in claim 9 in which a third side of the cross-section is substantially flat.

11. (new) The hand held instrument as claimed in claim 10 in which the instrument comprises an active end which must be disposed at a particular rotation in order to function correctly, and in which when the third side is rested on the middle finger in use the active end is substantially disposed at said particular rotation.

12. (new) The hand held instrument as claimed in claim 9 in which a third side of the cross-section is provided with a concavity adapted to receive either the user's fore finger or thumb in use.

13. (new) The hand held instrument as claimed in claim 12 in which the instrument comprises an active end which can be disposed at any rotation on order to function correctly.

14. (new) The hand held instrument as claimed in claim 3 in which the instrument is a writing instrument.